

A COMPARISON OF CRITICAL COMMUNITY WATERSHED WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLANS (CWP)² AND COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLANS (CWPPs)



ACTION STEPS	CWPP	ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR (CWP) ²
1) Establish a core group of leaders with interest or responsibility in the development of a (CWP) ² or CWPP.	Local fire authorities, homeowner associations, county commissioners, sheriff and emergency services personnel, etc.	Local and regional water providers, water districts or departments, Department of Local Affairs, regional Council of Government groups, etc.
2) Engage federal and state land managers and emergency response and planning personnel.	Local BLM area, USFS District, DOD, FWS Refuge managers and CSFS personnel.	Consider universities, U.S. Geological Survey, Corps of Engineers, Natural Resources Conservation Service, etc.
3) Contact and seek active involvement from diverse stakeholders that may have interest in where and how community watershed protection occurs.	Local residents, county authorities, homeowners associations, local interest groups.	Statewide interest groups such as Trout Unlimited, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Sierra Club, Wilderness Society, The Nature Conservancy, etc.
4) Create a working map of the planning area that includes populated locations, infrastructure, vegetative conditions and special biological considerations (i.e. Threatened & Endangered Species).	Community wildland-urban interface area and adjacent area as defined by the local community; default area is .5 to 1.5 miles around the community.	<p>Focus at the landscape level; at a minimum, planning should occur at sixth-level source watersheds (typically 5,000 to 40,000 acres).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Incorporate existing CWPPs. ▪ Use stand-level analysis to identify point or watershed protection attributes or enhancement opportunities. ▪ Identify critical stands that need treatment; identify and prioritize such treatments at the project scale.

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5) Conduct a wildfire risk assessment that looks at local wildfire response capability, fuel hazards, risks of wildfire probabilities/consequences and other community values at risk.	Generally limited to the WUI within and adjacent to the community as defined by the local community; default area is .5 to 1.5 miles around the community.	Include soil erosion potential, flooding potential, sediment transport/deposition; include key watershed infrastructure elements; determine potential locations for sediment traps in event of catastrophic wildfire. Expand area studied to the selected landscape level.
6) Identify natural processes, fire regimes and condition classes found within the planning area. Describe sustainable desired future conditions that are sensitive to ecosystem dynamics Identify needed fuel treatment priorities and methods on both federal and non-federal lands.	Focus is typically within community-defined WUI and protection of life, property and traditional infrastructure from wildfire.	Focus is at the selected landscape scale with additional wildfire protection concerns to maintain watershed function and water-supply infrastructure; adds element of post-fire flooding and debris flow impacts.
7) Develop a fresh coalition of support for and funding of actions that evolve during step six; involve the most likely critics in assessment and design of the recommended actions.	Depth of participation and opposition usually is narrower due to scope of the work involved.	Solicit informed consent of groups traditionally opposed to forest management activities; statewide and national interest groups are expected to have significant interest in watershed-level planning; consider funding opportunities, including SB-221.
8) Develop implementation and monitoring plans and strategy for periodic assessment of overall plan effectiveness and need for updates.	See cell 1 above.	See cells 2 & 3 above.
9) Finalize and share the plan with the larger community.	See cells 1 & 2 above.	Make a concerted effort to inform potentially affected watershed interests that are not a part of the traditional mix of stakeholders.
10) Begin implementation guided by identified priorities where funding and support exist; seek funding to maintain momentum and interest.	<u>Individual homeowners</u> , local fire authorities, homeowners associations, county commissioners, county sheriff, emergency services, land management agencies and CSFS personnel.	Landowners, public land managers, water supply entities, CSFS personnel, potential sponsors (individual, non-profit, corporate).